Pakistan's proposal to equip its submarines with nuclear missiles

*378. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of Pakistan's proposal to equip its submarines with nuclear missiles;

(b) if so, what are the defence ramifications involved in such strategic threats; and

(c) what measures are contemplated by Government to meet any eventuality?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent media reports about Pakistan Navy's plans to equip its submarines with nuclear missiles. This will augment Pakistan Navy's capabilities.

(c) The Government is alive to the developing situation and has undertaken all necessary measures.

Alternative arrangements for CISF

*379. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the personnel under the Central Industries Security Force have been deployed to man the national/international airports in the country;

(b) if so, the alternative arrangements made to man the industrial units under the PSUs, power plants and other project/utility installations hitherto looked after by the CISF; and

(c) what other steps are being taken to provide security to PSU units, power installations and other public utilities in view of massive disinvestment under process creating labour unrest and threat to such units/projects/utilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. CISF has been deployed in 20 domestic Airports.

(b) The required manpower for these airports has been mobilized out of the overall sanctioned strength of the Force by internal adjustment. The security of other installations, PSUs etc. having CISF security has not been affected.

(c) The CISF strength deployed in various PSUs, and other units is determined in consultation with the management of the concerned PSU/installation. Reinforcement, wherever necessary, to meet any specific threat, is provided from out of Reserve Battalions available with CISF.

Renovation and modernisation programme for hydel and thermal power plants

*380. SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the renovation of modernisation programme for hydel and thermal power plants; and

(b) how far this programme has helped in generation of additional power during the Eighth and the Ninth Five Year Plans?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Renovation & Modernisation (R&M) and Life Extension (LE) of the existing old power stations has been recognised as one of the most cost effective options to achieve additional generation due to its short gestation period and relatively low cost. The Government of India (GoI) recognised the importance of R&M way back in 1984 and a Centrally sponsored R&M Programme was launched in the year 1984 for R & M of 34 thermal power stations covering 163 thermal units in the country. GoI sanctioned a Central loan assistance of Rs. 500 crores and the programme was completed in the year 1992 resulting in an additional generation of about 10,000 Million Units per annum.

During the 8th Plan, R & M programme for 44 thermal power stations comprising 198 Units was taken up in the year 1990-91 at an